

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.114(c)
U.S. Appln. No. 09/960,345
Attorney Docket No. Q65935

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A rubber-based composite material to be arranged between a carcass and a sidewall for reinforcing a tire comprising
a non-woven fabric;
a coating of a metal or metallic compound reactable with sulfur, the coating being formed on ~~at least one~~ the surface of filaments constituting the non-woven fabric by a physical vapor deposition (PVD) method or a chemical vapor deposition (CVD) method; and
a rubber that adheres to the coating and that covers forming a continuous layer and covering the non-woven fabric.
2. (original): The rubber-based composite material according to claim 1, wherein the metal or metallic compound reactable with sulfur is cobalt or an oxide of cobalt.
3. (original): The rubber-based composite material according to claim 1 or 2, wherein a sputtering method is used as the physical vapor deposition (PVD) method.
4. (original): The rubber-based composite material according to claim 3, wherein the sputtering method is a magnetron sputtering method.
5. (canceled).

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6. (currently amended): A tire wherein a reinforcing layer comprising a rubber-based composite material according to claim 1 is ~~used as a reinforcing material between a~~ carcass layer and a sidewall.